

STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY
201 KAR 22:020E

This emergency administrative regulation is being promulgated in order to meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare. During the 2017 Legislative Session, the General Assembly enacted House Bill 227 which required, inter alia, that applicants seeking to obtain a credential to engage in the practice of physical therapy in Kentucky submit to a nationwide criminal background investigation provided by the Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation as a condition for participating in the Physical Therapy Compact. Following the passage of this legislation the Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy amended 201 KAR 22:020, 201 KAR 22:040, and 201 KAR 22:070 to make the criminal background investigation a requirement for initial licensure or certification, effective May 1, 2018. As of the date of the filing of this emergency administrative regulation, the Board has been unable to obtain an Originating Agency Identification number from the FBI which would allow its applicants to obtain the necessary criminal background investigation. This is being filed as an emergency administrative regulation to ensure that new applicants, including new graduates of physical therapy and physical therapist assistant programs, are not denied the ability to obtain a license or certificate due to circumstances beyond their control. This emergency administrative regulation will be replaced by an ordinary administrative regulation. The ordinary administrative regulation is identical to this emergency administrative regulation.

MATT BEVIN, Governor
TALIA BARTON, Board Chair
SCOTT D. MAJORS, Executive Director

GENERAL GOVERNMENT
Board of Physical Therapy
(Emergency Amendment)

201 KAR 22:020E. Eligibility and credentialing procedure.

RELATES TO: KRS 164.772, 327.010, 327.050, 327.060, 327.075, 327.080, 327.310

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 327.040(1), (11), (13)

EFFECTIVE: March 14, 2018

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 327.040(11) authorizes the Board of Physical Therapy to promulgate and enforce reasonable administrative regulations for the effectuation of the purposes of KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(1) requires the board to determine if physical therapist applicants meet the qualifications and standards required by KRS Chapter 327. KRS 327.040(13) authorizes the board to promulgate administrative regulations regarding the qualifications for physical therapist assistants. This administrative regulation establishes the criteria for eligibility, methods, and procedures of qualifying for a credential to practice physical therapy in Kentucky.

Section 1. An application shall be accepted for credentialing as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant based on successful completion by the applicant of one (1) of the following processes:

- (1) Examination;
- (2) Endorsement; or
- (3) Reinstatement.

Section 2. Examination Candidate. (1) To be eligible for the examination, the applicant for licensure as a physical therapist shall:

- (a) Have successfully completed the academic and clinical requirements of a physical therapy program accredited by CAPTE;
- (b) Submit certification of completion by the educational administrator of that program;
- (c) Have successfully completed the Jurisprudence Exam;
- (d) Submit a complete Application for Credentialing that includes a photo taken within one (1) year;
- (e) Submit the correct, nonrefundable fee as required in 201 KAR 22:135;
- (f) If applicable, submit on an Applicant Special Accommodations Request Form a request for a reasonable accommodation in testing due to a documented disability;
- (g) Register for the NPTE examination; and
- (h) Effective six (6) months after the Board receives an Originating Agency Number from the Federal Bureau of Investigation ~~[May 1, 2018]~~, submit to the Board a completed nationwide criminal background check as required by KRS 327.310 with the background investigation completed no later than six (6) months prior to the date of the filing of the application.

(2) To be eligible for the examination, the applicant for certification as a physical therapist assistant shall:

- (a) Have successfully completed the academic and clinical requirements of a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant program accredited by CAPTE; and
 - (b) Complete the requirements of subsection (1)(b) through (h) of this section.
- (3) Effective July 1, 2012, after six (6) failed attempts at either the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant examination, or combination thereof, in any jurisdiction, an applicant shall not be eligible to register for any additional examinations.

Section 3. An applicant for credentialing who is registered for the examination in another jurisdiction shall:

- (1) Meet the eligibility requirements of Section 2 of this administrative regulation; and
- (2) Register with the FSBPT Score Transfer Service to have results submitted to Kentucky.

Section 4. To be eligible for a temporary permit, the candidate shall:

- (1) Meet the qualifications of Section 2 or 3 of this administrative regulation, except for the retake provisions in Section 2(3) of this administrative regulation;
- (2) Complete a Supervisory Agreement for Applicant with Temporary Permit with one (1) or more physical therapists; and
- (3) Have not failed either the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant examination in any jurisdiction.

Section 5. (1) Upon issuance of a temporary permit, the physical therapist or physical therapist assistant applicant shall practice only under the supervision of a physical therapist currently engaged in the practice of physical therapy in Kentucky who:

- (a) Has practiced in Kentucky for more than one (1) year; and
 - (b) Has an unrestricted license.
- (2) A supervising physical therapist:
- (a) Shall be on-site at all times during the practice of the applicant with a temporary permit;
 - (b) Shall be responsible for the practice of physical therapy by the applicant with a temporary permit;

(c) Shall review, approve, date, and co-sign all physical therapy documentation by the applicant with a temporary permit;

(d) May designate an alternate supervising physical therapist who meets the qualifications of subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section. The alternate supervising physical therapist shall sign and date written documentation of the acceptance of the responsibility as identified in paragraph (a) through (c) of this subsection; and

(e) Shall notify the board immediately if the supervisory relationship is terminated.

(3) The applicant with a temporary permit shall:

(a) Disclose the applicant's temporary credential status to all patients prior to initiating treatment;

(b) Sign documentation with temporary permit number and designation as defined in 201 KAR 22:053, Section 5(5)(a) or (b); and

(c) Notify the board immediately if the supervisory relationship is terminated.

(4) The temporary permit shall expire the earlier of:

(a) Six (6) months from the date of issuance; or

(b) Notice of exam results by the board.

Section 6. A physical therapist applicant who meets the qualifications for physical therapy licensure by examination may become a special candidate for physical therapist assistant certification by examination.

Section 7. To be eligible for credentialing by endorsement, the applicant shall:

(1) Have successfully completed the academic and clinical requirements of a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant program accredited by CAPTE;

(2) Meet the requirements established in Section 2(1)(b) through (e) of this administrative regulation;

(3) Have successfully completed the NPTE or its equivalent, predecessor examination and register with the FSBPT Score Transfer Service to have results submitted to Kentucky:

(a) A passing score in Kentucky for the person who took the NPTE prior to July 1, 1993, shall be at least equal to the national average raw score minus one and five-tenths (1.5) standard deviation set equal to a converted score of seventy-five (75); or

(b) After July 1, 1993, a passing score shall be the criterion referenced passing point recommended by the FSBPT set equal to a scaled score of 600;

(4) Have an active credential in this profession in another jurisdiction; and

(5) Have verification of credentials showing the credential has never been revoked, suspended, placed on probation, or is not under disciplinary review in another jurisdiction upon application.

Section 8. To be eligible for reinstatement, the applicant shall meet the requirements in 201 KAR 22:040.

Section 9. A credential issued by the board shall be in effect until March 31 of the next odd-numbered year.

Section 10. A foreign-educated physical therapist shall comply with the provisions of 201 KAR 22:070

Section 11. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

- (a) "Application for Credentialing", December 2011;
- (b) "Supervisory Agreement for Applicant with Temporary Permit", January 2017; and
- (c) "Applicant Special Accommodations Request Form", December 2012.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Board of Physical Therapy, 312 Whittington Parkway Suite 102, Louisville, Kentucky 40222, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

TALIA BARTON, Board Chair

LOUIS D. KELLY, General Counsel

APPROVED BY AGENCY: March 13, 2018

FILED WITH LRC: March 14, 2018 at 10 a.m.

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REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Contact Persons: Scott D. Majors and Louis D. Kelly, Esq.

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does: This administrative regulation establishes the eligibility and credentialing procedure for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in Kentucky.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation: This administrative regulation is necessary to implement provisions of KRS 327.050.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: It establishes the eligibility and credentialing procedure for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in Kentucky.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: It establishes the eligibility and credentialing procedure for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in Kentucky.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation: The amendment adds a requirement that any applicant must submit to a nationwide criminal background investigation conducted by the Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation in compliance with KRS 327.310, effective six months after the Board obtains an Originating Agency Identification number.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation: To comply with the provisions of KRS 327.310.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: The amendment requires all applicants to submit to a nationwide criminal background investigation conducted by the Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation consistent with the requirements of KRS 327.310.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: The amendment requires all applicants to submit to a nationwide criminal background investigation conducted by the Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation consistent with

the requirements of KRS 327.310, effective six months after the Board obtains an Originating Agency Identification number.

(3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation: Approximately 5,600 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

(4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment: Applicants will be required to submit to a nationwide criminal background investigation conducted by the Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation, effective six months after the Board obtains an Originating Agency Identification number.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (3): The nationwide criminal background investigation is at the applicant's expense and currently costs approximately \$40.00 for all associated fees.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3): Assuming all other criteria for licensure is met, applicants will be granted a credential to work as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially: No cost to the board.

(b) On a continuing basis: No cost to the board.

(6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation: Agency Revenue Fund.

(7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment: There will be no increase in fees or funding.

(8) State whether or not this administrative regulation established any fees or directly or indirectly increased any fees: Applicants will have to pay fees charged by the Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation to perform the background checks.

(9) TIERING: Is tiering applied? Tiering was not used in this administrative regulation because the administrative regulation applies equally to all those individuals regulated by it.

FISCAL NOTE ON STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

(1) What units, parts or divisions of state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) will be impacted by this administrative regulation? Applicants for physical therapist or physical therapist assistant credentials.

(2) Identify each state or federal statute or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation: KRS 327.040, 327.050, 327.310

(3) Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and revenues of a state or local government agency (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect. No effect.

(a) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first year? None

(b) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for subsequent years? None

(c) How much will it cost to administer this program for the first year? None

(d) How much will it cost to administer this program for subsequent years? None

Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.

Revenues (+/-):

Expenditures (+/-):

Other Explanation: